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Princeton student arrested at Douglass during CIA protest

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NEW BRUNSWICK — A Princeton University student was arrested yesterday during a rally at Douglass College's Student Center protesting the CIA's recruitment efforts at Rutgers University.

The student, identified as 23-year-old Terence Coles, was charged with disorderly conduct and defiant trespassing, a Rutgers spokeswoman said. He was later released on his own recognizance.

About 45 Rutgers students, faculty and others clustered in front of the center to protest the CIA's recruitment drive.

The protesters warmed themselves with coffee and bulky coats as 111 students watched films and learned about agency jobs.

The CIA was primarily interested in students with computer science and engineering backgrounds, said Glenn Gamble, Rutgers' career center development director.

To prevent the protesters from entering the building and disrupting the recruitment, four uniformed officers, four plainclothes detectives, the campus police captain and Robert Oches, director of public safety, stood at various entrances inside and outside the student center. Usually two to three officers patrol the Douglass and Cook College campuses, according to Oches.

Oches said the security was not requested by the CIA but was necessary to keep the protesters from disturbing the recruitment.

Some protesters attempted to enter the student center but were ejected by the police.

Bob Witanek, a 1982 Cook graduate, said he was inside reading from the CIA's psychological war manual when university police shoved him outside.

While the protesters chanted "Hey, hey, CIA, how many kids did you kill today?" and raised a banner of Uncle Sam holding a machine gun, three university students countered with signs reading "Rutgers loves the CIA" and "Ortega loves Russia," referring to Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega.

The three students jokingly said they had established an Anti-Communist League on campus and argued with three protesters about American foreign policies.

Kathy Pherson, a CIA spokeswoman in Virginia, said that because the intelligence agency is an official government organization, anyone opposed to its activities should write to his Congressman.

She said the CIA has recruited on hundreds of college campuses for several years, and that the number of recruits is always high because the organization offers a good career.

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